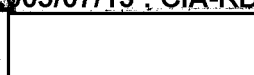


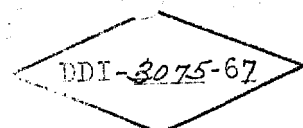
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Executive Registry  
107-4408

18 September 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with General Carroll Concerning the CIA  
Memorandum on the Tallinn System

1. General Carroll said that he had been unable to locate General Spivy who originally communicated General Wheeler's concern with the CIA study on the Tallinn system. General Carroll did talk to General George Brown who is an assistant to General Wheeler. General Brown said that he did not feel that a letter to the Secretary of Defense would serve a particularly useful purpose. I gather that the Joint Chiefs (at least General Wheeler and General Johnson) continue to be unhappy with the conclusions of the memorandum. In their opinion, all a letter would do, however, would be to confirm that the memorandum sets forth tentative and strictly Agency views based on new evidence. General Brown at least sees no point in making this assertion. General Carroll agrees with this and recommends that no letter be sent. He says that he has made it clear to everybody concerned that the dissenting views, particularly on the issue of low level capabilities and as regards the possibility of an ABM mission for the complex, will be presented and argued out during the course of the preparation of NIE 11-3.

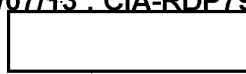
2. I asked General Carroll whether he felt that any very substantial damage had been done. As I understood it, he felt that the basic issue would be resolved in the NIE. His concern about the memorandum was that its language, as he read it, constituted a departure from the present text of the present NIE. He feels that it is a mistake for the Agency to publish a finding which appears to contradict the sense of a USIB approved estimate without coordination, etc. He also said that a somewhat misleading impression is given to the uninitiated by the fact that the memorandum carries the inscription "approved by ONE." This, he said, conveys to General Wheeler the idea that the memorandum carried the authority of a Memorandum to Holders.

no, "Coordinated with" ONE.

3. Obviously General Carroll hopes that this won't happen again. On the other hand, he is not prepared to recommend that the

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memorandum be recalled. It was not even clear to me that he necessarily felt that the conclusions in the memorandum were wrong.

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JOHN A. BROSS  
D/DCI/NIPE

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25 September 1967

*Sherman*  
MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of ~~National Estimates~~  
SUBJECT : CIA Memorandum on the Tallinn System  
REFERENCE : Bross Memorandum of 18 September 1967

1. To recall, the credit line in the Tallinn Memorandum was the usual one: "This memorandum was produced by CIA. It was prepared jointly by the Office of Scientific Intelligence and the Office of Strategic Research and coordinated with the Office of National Estimates."

2. Both Don Chamberlain and I were aware at the time of preparing this Memorandum that the reference to coordination with ONE might raise the problem alluded to in paragraph 2 of the Bross memo. We felt, however, that we had no choice but to go ahead and use the standard credit line.

3. As I see it, the problem here is not that the Agency should not publish the results of its independent analysis, but that in doing so that the Agency should not appear to be speaking for the community. This raises the question whether on such matters as this, where CIA production offices believe that new evidence and new analysis warrant the publication of an Agency viewpoint that may be at some variance with the community judgment contained in an NIE, the fact of coordination with the Office of National Estimates should be mentioned in the credit line.

4. I would not propose any change at all in our present practice of routine coordination with ONE on all items planned for publication where ONE has an interest. It may be, however, that it is unnecessary


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to note the fact of this coordination in the credit line carried in the published document, if doing so gives rise -- as in the Tallinn case -- to possible misunderstanding of the role of ONE, with its inter-agency estimative responsibilities, in the production of an Agency memorandum.

5. If the mention of ONE in the credit line is going to cause confusion over what is a CIA Memorandum and what is a Memorandum to Holders of an NIE, we probably should consider some change. One solution would be to make explicit mention of coordination with ONE optional depending on the view of the producing office or of ONE as to the potential for misunderstanding given the subject and nature of particular report. Another solution would be routinely to omit mention of ONE coordination.

  
BRUCE C. CLARKE, Jr.  
Director  
Strategic Research

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Attachment:  
D/DCI/NIPE memo dated  
18 September 1967

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